
Subject: Re: Where vs Histogram vs ??

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 17 Oct 2002 13:58:18 GMT

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Andrew Cool (andrew.cool@dsto.defence.gov.au) writes:

```
> I have a structure defined as :-
>
> data_st = {YEAR      : 0      , $
>             DAY       : 0      , $ ; 136 days over 12 years
>             HALF_HR    : 0      , $ ; 0..47
>             RANGE_IDX : 0      , $ ; 0..267
>             WRF        : 0B     , $ ; 3 possible values
>             FREQ       : 0B     , $ ; 4 possible values
>             BEAM       : 0B     , $ ; 4 possible values
>             PAD        : 0B     , $ ; Padding to align byte
> boundaries
>             Parameter : FLTARR(5)}
>
>
> Replicate that a few times :-
>
> database = Replicate(data_st, 15425228)
```

15425228!? The mind boggles. :-(

In a *structure*!? I guess it would be slow. I think I would lean toward some kind of flat file structure that could be accessed quickly with associated variables and an array (arrays?) of pointers.

```
> Is there a quicker way than the above monstrous Where statement?
> I've browsed the Histogram tut on David Fanning's site, and rapidly found
> my eyes glazing over. Can Histogram help here? Perhaps multiple nested
> Histograms? David's SetUnion or SetIntersection, maybe?
```

SetUnion and SetIntersection are just fancy wrappers to Histogram.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say I'm pretty sure my lack of good ideas this morning has to do with the excessive celebration after beating that 25 year-old kid again last night. (On a service ace and an overhead, if you can imagine!) Oooohh, that kid hates to play me. But I think that is the last time he will call me "Grandpa." :-)

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